

# 2024 Sunrise Side Rules & Expectations

## Minor Boys

### GAME LENGTH

- Typically, teams practice for 15-30 minutes prior to the start of the game. Teams should try to play **SIX (6) complete innings**. However, no new inning should start after 1 hour forty five (45) minutes of play. Minimum 3 innings must be played for the game to count. A new inning starts immediately after the last out of the prior inning.

### PLAYER PARTICIPATION

#### *Offense:*

- Entire rosters will be placed in the batting order (Continuous batting lineup will be used).
- Late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the batting order per coach's discretion.
- Dropped third strike rule is not in effect in Minors division; infield fly rule is in effect.
- Stealing bases is allowed but base runners are not allowed to lead off from base and may only leave base as the pitch crosses home plate.
- Runners may steal home from 3rd base on a passed ball from the pitcher to catcher. Runner may not advance on the catcher over-throwing the pitcher.
- Each batter or runner that is out must return to their bench/dugout.

#### *Defense:*

- The defensive team is allowed a minimum of eight players on the field to begin the game and a maximum of nine players on the field during the game. 10 players are permitted to play defensive positions (ONLY if agreed on by both teams head coaches)
- If 10 players are used, 4 of the fielders must be outfielders positioned in fair territory.
- Catchers must wear shin guards, chest protector, and full, one-piece catcher's helmet.
- Pitching mound is set at 46 feet, and the base path distance is 60 feet.

### SLIDING:

- Sliding is **NOT** mandatory but players must try to avoid contact.

### SUBSTITUTIONS:

- Free defensive substitutions. No substitutions on offense due to continuous batting order.

# 2024 Sunrise Side Rules & Expectations

## PITCHING RULES:

- A mandatory number of days rest is required for baseball pitchers, based on the number of pitches thrown that day:
- ***Max pitch per pitcher is 75 pitches per game.***

### ***Pitches Thrown Mandatory Days of Rest***

- 1 – 20 Pitches 0 calendar days (may pitch following day)
- 21 – 35 Pitches 1 calendar day of rest (cannot pitch next day)
- 36 – 50 Pitches 2 calendar days of rest (cannot pitch next two days following game)
- 51 – 65 Pitches 3 calendar days of rest (cannot pitch next three days following game)
- 66+ or More Pitches 4 calendar days of rest (cannot pitch next four days following game)

## HOW THE GAME IS PLAYED:

- Complete games are defined as a minimum of three innings or two and a half innings if the home team is winning. The 15-run “mercy” rule after three innings applies to the inning limits listed.
- Games may end in a tie if time expires and/or a minimum of 3 innings have been played and the game is called due to weather or light levels.
- A minimum of one adult and a maximum of three adults from the coaching staff or parent volunteers are allowed in the dugout area at one time.
- Members of the coaching staff from the defensive team are not allowed to enter the field and should stay in the dugout area during play.
- Coaches and players are allowed to serve as base coaches. Player base coaches must wear a batting helmet while on the field. Base coaches must stay within the coaching box and not be allowed to speak during the pitcher’s wind up. Base coaches are not allowed to physically assist runners during play or the runner will be called out
- No negative chatter is allowed at any point during games by players, members of the coaching staff or spectators.
- Injured players are allowed to temporarily leave games and return to play. Injured base runners will be replaced by the player who made the last out in the current or prior inning.

## RUN LIMIT PER INNING / END OF INNING:

- The side is retired when three offensive players are legally put out, called out by an umpire OR 5 runs have been scored PER INNING.
- Final inning has an eight run maximum.

## 2024 Sunrise Side Rules & Expectations

### MINOR BATS:

- Minor will use appropriate baseball bats as recommended for this age division. All bats must meet the USA bat standard and have USA LOGO.
- The bat shall not be more than 33 inches in length; nor more than 2 $\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter.

### MINOR BALLS:

- Baseballs are typically for ages 8 to 12 years old and these baseballs start to resemble more of the professional style baseball. These baseballs either have real leather on the cover of the ball, or a higher-quality synthetic material. Along with that, raised seams help the player get a good grip on the ball and assist them with making accurate throws.
- **MacGregor 74 Cal Ripken baseball – Model MCB74CAL**
- **Rawlings Ripken Baseballs – Rawlings RCAL1**
- **Rawlings Little League Baseballs – Rawlings RLLB1**
- **Rawlings Dixie Youth Baseballs – Model RDYB1**